

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF YORK
YORKTOWN, VIRGINIA

Resolution

At a regular meeting of the York County Board of Supervisors held in the Board Room, York Hall, Yorktown, Virginia, on the ____ day of ____, 2004:

Present

Vote

Thomas G. Shepperd, Jr., Chairman
James S. Burgett, Vice Chairman
Walter C. Zaremba
Sheila S. Noll
Kenneth L. Bowman

On motion of _____, which carried ____, the following resolution was adopted:

A RESOLUTION TO COMMEND AND CONGRATULATE NICK
RENISON ON HIS SELECTION AS THE 2004 YORK COUNTY OUT-
STANDING YOUTH OF THE YEAR FOR COURAGE

WHEREAS, the York County Youth Commission and the Board of Supervisors established the Outstanding Youth of the Year Awards Program to recognize the accomplishments and achievements of York County's youth; and

WHEREAS, Nick Renison was nominated and has been chosen by the Selection Committee to receive the 2004 Outstanding Youth of the Year Award for Courage, a quality recognized by all since August 15, 2003, when the seventeen year old rising senior at Tabb High School was suddenly diagnosed with Acute Myeloid Leukemia; and

WHEREAS, Nick was immediately hospitalized in Riverside's Oncology Intensive Care Unit and underwent eight weeks of chemotherapy until late October, suffering through the physical side effects of nausea, fever spells as high as 105 degrees that required him to be packed in ice, weight and hair loss, and peeling skin, as well as the emotional stress of being isolated and separated from his home, school, and friends; and

WHEREAS, Nick's parents remember his initial shock and the courage it took for him to even admit his fear, but how he soon came to grips with his condition, resolved to get his life in order, and focused on new goals, which included being baptized, rededicating himself to his schoolwork and plans for college, and pursuing the dream of graduating with his class and participating in Commencement this June; and

WHEREAS, Nick couldn't even begin course work until almost the first of November, and soon began balancing his homebound instruction with daily outpatient visits for continuing chemotherapy treatments and constant blood monitoring; and

WHEREAS, from November through March Nick maintained this schedule in a self-sufficient manner, often driving himself to the doctor's office where he befriended many older oncology patients, and also taking additional intravenous medicines at home with the use of a portable pump; and

WHEREAS, throughout this ordeal Nick diligently performed his schoolwork, earning A's and B's in his required courses for graduation while also taking college entrance exams and preparing college applications for this fall; and

WHEREAS, Nick underwent a third intensive round of chemotherapy in late winter and this spring began a fourth round at the Duke University Medical Center, where he is scheduled to be hospitalized for another six to eight weeks to undergo a stem cell auto transplant at Duke's Adult Bone Marrow Medical Center; and

WHEREAS, Nick is characterized by his nominator and Guidance Counselor as being a "mature young man before his encounter with cancer," who through this experience has gained "a unique perspective on the meaning of life and what he wants to do with his," which is to become a Pediatric Oncologist; and

WHEREAS, Nick's dogged perseverance has also earned him the respect of his homebound tutor, who affirms that Nick "has never complained, not one single time, and has never used his illness to try and keep from doing an assignment;" and

WHEREAS, Nick is also esteemed by his principal and teachers at Tabb High who report that he will graduate on time with his senior class this June; and

WHEREAS, his dad, George, tearfully recounts his son's bravery, remarking that, "He's been so strong with it. He's kept a positive outlook and takes a day at a time," while his mom, Clara, lovingly relates that "he never has any pity for himself, but stays focused, looking forward, going ahead, and planning for next year."

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the York County Board of Supervisors this ____ day of _____, 2004, that Nick Renison be, and he is hereby, congratulated and commended as York County's 2004 Outstanding Youth of the Year for Courage.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Nick be publicly recognized as a most worthy recipient of the Outstanding Youth Award for Courage, that he be extended the sincere admiration and heartfelt appreciation of the Board of Supervisors for his tremendous inspiration and example to us all, and that the Board's best wishes go with him for a most rewarding and blessed life, and a bright future filled with continued triumph.